NEW YORK BEEALD, VEIDAY, AFRIC 18, 1862.

#### JAMES GORDON BENNETT. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

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ARTIQUEARLY ENGINEERY TO SAAL ALL LEXTERS and PACK PARTICULARIT ENQUERTED TO SEAL ALL LETTERS AND PACK-ADER ENTY US taken of anonymous correspondence. We do not return rejected communications.

ADVERTISEM ENT'S renewed enery day; advertisements in-perted in the Warket Hurald, [Pamily Herald, and in the Childrenia and European Editions.

JOB PRINTING executed with neutrons, cheapness and des-

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

MIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway .- THE ENCHANTERSA WINTER GARDEN, Broadway .- STILL WATERS RUN WALLACK'S THEATRE, No. 844 Breadway. -- THE WOR LAURA EBENE'S THEATRE, Broadway.-THE MA-

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery. -THE STRANGER

BARNON'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway, over-Living Whats, &c., at all hours.—Hor BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broad

MELODEON CONCERT HALL, 539 Broadway. - Equa-CANTERBURY MUSIC HALL, 585 Broadway .- Songe

GAIETIES CONCERT ROOM, 616 Broadway. -- DRAWING AMBRICAN MUSIC HALL, 444 Broadway. -JEALOUS

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERT HALL, No. 45 Bowery. PARISIAN CABINET OF WONDERS, 563 Broadway.

NOVELTY MUSIC HALL, 616 Broadway. -BURLESQUE

New York, Friday, April 18, 1862.

### THE SITUATION.

The work at Yorktown appears to be progres ing. Our gunboats have been doing good service at Gloucester for the past few days. On Wednes day morning one of them approached within two miles of Yorktown, and the rebels opened fire from a concealed battery in the woods. They were driven in large force from another battery to the left of Yorktown on the same day. The rebels opened upon our troops with their heavy guns, when a second battery was brought forward. A brisk fire was kept up for about four hours, during which three of the enemy's guns were dismounted, when both parties ceased for a while; but the firing was resumed on our part late in the afternoon, and continued until daylight next morning, effectually preventing the rebels from repairing the damage they had sustained.

The War Department received a despatch from General Banks' corps yesterday, announcing that our troops are in possession of Mount Jackson, and have advanced as far as Rude's Hill, where the rebels had assembled in force. New Market was to be occupied by our army immediately. General Shields has so far recovered from his wound as to be able to command his division in person.

The Merrimac makes no demonstration, although the weather continues fair at Hampton Roads. There seems to be very little doubt that she went aground during her late attempt to come out from her place of retirement, and had to be taken back to the Gosport Navy Yard for repairs. It is stated, upon competent authority, that she burst her gun when she fired the last shot at our boats on Friday

the news from the Rappahannock to-day is im portant. A gunboat expedition succeeded on Monday last in securing Fort Lowrie and the town of Tappahannock, planting the Stars and Stripes on the Court House. Two rebel vessels were captured by our fleet. The people at Tappahannock were considerably slarmed, and were about to abandon the place until assured of protection by Lieut. McCrea.

## CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday, the House bill enlarging the powers of the Court of Claims was reterred to the Judiciary Committee, and the House bill authorizing the issue of certificates of indebt edness was referred to the Finance Committee. A joint resolution appropriating \$7,000 for the relief of the officers and privates of the Maine battalion, who lost their personal effects on the Port Royal expedition, was adopted. The bill requiring electors of the District of Columbia to take the oath of allegiance to the government was passed. The House bill-establishing a Bureau of Agriculture was taken up. Mr. Wright, of Indiana, offered a substitute, providing for an Agricultural, Statistical and Commercial Bureau, and made a speech in support of it. The subject was, however, laid aside and the Indian Appropriation bill was taken up, amended, and laid over to be printed. The Ho bill establishing a branch mint at Denver, Colora do Territory, was passed. On motion of Mr. Mc-Dougall, the resolution relative to the arrest of General Stone was postponed till Monday next. Mr. Doolittle gave notice that he should move to have the subject referred to some committee, perhaps a select committee. A resolution was adopted calling on the President for the papers and testimony in the court of inquiry in the case of Lieutenant Fleming, of the navy. The bill providing for a line of steamships between San Francisco and Shanghae was called up; but without taking action on it the Senate went into executive

The House was occupied all day in debating the

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

In the Scoate of our State Legislature yesterday, several bills were passed, among which was that relative to the inspection of unsafe buildings in this city. The majority of the others were only of local or private interest. The city tax levy and the bill to prevent frauds in laying out streets this city were reported favorably and ordered to nittee of the Whole. The bill relative to rates of wharfage in New York and Brooklyn was ordered to a third reading. The bill for the enlargement of the canals sufficient to admit the passage of gunboats came up for its third read. but was somewhat amended and sent back to the committee. The Metropolitan Health bili again came up, and, after being discussed and laving some amendments proposed, was made the special order again for this forenoon. The were non-concurred in. In the Assembly, a minority report was made from the committee appoint-

tary Board. It reviews the majority report, and says, in substance, that no one connected with these transactions is deserving of serious condemnation, but that the errors were inseparable from so hasty an organization of such a vast system. The report was ordered to be printed. The Harbor Masters bill was called up, considerably amended, and ordered to a third reading. The conference committee on the General Appropriation bill made a report, in which the House non-concurred, proposing a further con-ference. The Senate Excise bill came up, was debated at considerable length, had several amendments proposed, and was finally ordered to

Our telegraphic report by the Canada at Hali-()x, announcing the capture of the packet ship Yorktown by a rebel privateer, must have been written in mistake, as the Yorktown is now in this port. If any such seizure has been made, the ame of the vessel taken must have been erroneously telegraphed from Liverpool to Queenstown There were eighty vessels entered at the Custom House yesterday from foreign ports. This number of entries in one day was never exceeded bu once, which was on the 15th of April, 1861, when the number reached hinety-one. A large number of them were from the West Indies, with

cargoes of sugar and molasses.

The Board of Aldermen did not organize last

evening, a quorum not being present.
This being Good Friday, the law courts, as, have adjourned over to Saturday morning. The only judicial tribunal announced to be in session is the Supreme Court Circuit, part second, at present presided over by Judge Hoyt, of Buffalo. The trial of Thomas Duffey, charged with the nurder of Alex. Small, first mate of the ship outhampton, terminated yesterday, before Judge Smalley, in the United States Circuit Court. Mr. Howe summed up for the defence, contending that there was no proof that the prisoner inflicted the blow, but if the presumption was that he did, then it must have been done in self-defence. The District Attorney, for the prosecution, addressed the jury, who, after a charge from the Judge, retired,

with a verdict of guilty of manslaughter. The Judge then sentenced Duffey to three years imprisonment at hard tabor, and to pay a fine of In the Oyer and Terminer yesterday, the case of Edward F. Gallott, charged with manslaughter in the third degree, in causing the death of Andrew J. Fowler, was called on for trial. The homicide took place in a drinking saloon in Houston street on New Year's eve. It appears that a controversy arose between some parties, and in the affra Fowler was stabbed by Gallott. By advice of hi counsel he pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the

and after an absence of about three hours returned

risoner for sentence.

There was a better feeling in Wall street yesterday growing partly out of the belief that the differences be tween General McClellan and a member of the Cabi net, which have been the subject of general conversat have been satisfactorily settled. Government stocks rose 14 per cent, and the general railway list rose 34 s 14, the most active securities being Central, Erie an Totedo, which are believed to be largely oversold. Mone was easy at 5 a 6 per cent. Exchange was dull at 112

fourth degree, which ples was accepted by District

Attorney Hall. Judge Barnard remanded the

The cotton market was excited vesterday . . d The supplies on sale were light, while there wa more inquiry on the part of spinners: the sales embraced about 3,000 bales, on the basis of 29c. for middling up lands, and some holders asked 29 %c. and were unwill and, with moderate sales, prices fell on 5c. a 10c. a 15c. per barrel, mostly to the ex-tent of the two latter figures. Wheat was again beavy and lower, while prices were irregular and sales ed. Corn was rather easier, with fair sales at 580 for Western mixed, in store, and 59c. a 60c, for do., de concession. The sales embraced mess at \$12 50 a \$12 62 %, and small lots were reported at \$12 75, and new prime at Sugars were less active, while prices were steady, with sales of 350 hhds. Coffee was steady, but quiet, and fair amount of engagements.

STONE AND WOODEN WALLS EQUALLY UNSER VICEABLE .- The wooden walls of the navy, so long relied upon as the chief defence of maritime nations, fell before the iron-clad vessels of our navy and both in this country Europe, the era of wooden ships is declared past. The capture of Fort Pulaski. demonstrates as conclusively that the era of stone fortifications is also among the things that were. Under the terrific fire of our Parrott and siege cannon, the fort was breached in seven places, and a successful defence was impossible. These facts demonstrate that the mmense improvements in artillery bave rendered our present fortifications useless and indefensible, unless they are heavily plated with iron. By and by we shall probably have them built of iron entirely. Then, with our coasts guarded by iron-clad forts, our harbors defended by iron-clad floating batteries, and a reat fleet of iron-clad ships at sea, the United States may defy the world to an attack. Henceforth, then, the shield of the Union must be of iron, and the national coat of arms a coat

WHICH FORT PILLOW IS COMMODORE FOOTE AFTER !- It was reported in our telegraphic despatches yesterday that Commodore Foote had reached and was bombarding Fort Pillow. Now, the rebel General Pillow achieved so great a reputation in Mexico by constructing an intrenchment with the ditch Inside instead of outside the walls, that the Confederates sent bim to fortify the Mississippi, and be has built a dozen earthwork forts, several of which he has had the vanity to name after himself. The question is, which is the Fort Pillow that Comdore Foote is bombarding? It cannot be the Fort Pillow just below Hickman; for that must have surrendered with Island No. 10. Is it, then. Fort Harris, or Fort Randolph, or Fort Wright, under another name? Or is it the really important Fort Pillow, a few miles above Memphis? If the latter, how did Commodore Foote manage to pass the intervening forts safely? and why does he say nothing about them? A little official explanation upon these points is very greatly needed.

WHAT GEN. GRANT HAS DONE .- The Union commander at Pittsburg has been engaged in eventeen battles under the folds of the flag of the United States, fourteen of which have been fought during the present rebellion. In Mis. souri he held the various ranks of Colonel Acting Brigadier General, Brigadier General and Acting Major General. He held the chief command at Belmont, Fort Donelson, Fort Henry, &c., forming a portion of those fourteen battles; and the spirit manifested by his conduct as Second Lieutenant at Molino del Rey, where he was brevetted, has not died within him now he is a Major General.

A RIGHTEOUS RETRIBUTION OF PROVIDENCE. The civil war which the ruling classes of Engand have fomented in the United States has resulted in a revolution in naval warfare which is destructive to her supremacy in Europe, and exposes her to invasion from France. od to investigate the transactions of the Mill- just retribution of Divine Providence!

The Abolition of Slavery in the District

of Columbia.

The bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia having, with the signature of President Lincoln, become a law of the land, our readers will naturally inquire, what are the provisions of this abolition measure, and what are likely to be the consequences to the institution of slavery in the Southern States?

We published the bill at length a few days ago; but, for the benefit of the reader, we will briefly herein reproduce its leading provisions First, it provides "that all persons held to service or labor within the District of Columbia by reason of African descent, are hereby discharged and freed of and from all claim to such service or labor; and from and after the passage of this act, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, whereof the party shall be duly convicted, shall hereafter exist in said District." The emancipation decreed is immediate, peremptory and absolute. When the bill, last December, was introduced in the Senate, there were some three thousand slaves in said District; when it was passed by that body, some three weeks ago, the number had been reduced to perhaps fifteen hundred, by transfers to Maryland; and when the bill was signed by the President we dare say there were hardly over a thousand slaves retained in the District to receive its boon of emancipation All that were in the District, however, when the President affixed his signature to the bill, were

legally free the moment after. The bill further provides the average compensation of three hundred dollars to the owner of each slave liberated: but from this compensation secession slaveowners are excluded. Ninety days are allowed to slaveowners to bring in their claims before the Board of three Commissioners appointed to settle them; and such owners so presenting themselves are required to take the oath of allegiance to the government; but this oath shall not be evidence of the facts stated by the petitioner. The Board may take the testimon of persons claimed as slaves for purposes of identification. For compensation of the slave owners a million dollars are appropriated, and an additional item of one hundred thousand dollars is appropriated to aid such persons thus emancipated, to the extent of one hundred dollars each, in removing beyond the limits of the United States, if they may desire so to emigrate.

These are the leading features of the bill. President Lincoln, while intimating that the measure is not entirely satisfactory to him signed it, because he has "ever desired to see the national capital freed from the institution (slavery) in some satisfactory way," and because "the two principles of compensation and colonization are both recognized and practically applied in the act."

We think therefore, looking at these "two principles of compensation and colonization, that our abolition radicals have gained little or nothing by this bill, as an entering wedge against slavery in the States. Mr. Lincoln's late special recommendation, and the resolution in pursuance thereof, adopted by the two houses of Congress, leaving the initiation of emancipa tion to each of the several States concerned close the door against any Congressional usur pation-at least for the present-of the consti tutional sovereignty of each State over this sub ject. In the District of Columbia the constitutional supremacy of Congress is clear and comprehensive; but this Congressional power of emancipation goes no further.

We are aware that the radicals of the two houses are endeavoring in their confiscation bills-such as that, for instance, of Senator Trumbull-to uproot the institution of slavery in the slave States. But we dare say that, before they can push through either house any such revolutionary scheme as this of Senator Trumbull, the last excuse for any such act as a war measure will have been extinguished by a general break up of the rebellion. In any event, while the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, under the peculiar circumstances of this crisis, amounts to little or nothing as an abolition triumph, we have little fear of the consequences. It is an isolated act, and affords something for [congratulation, in the fact that the disgusting agitation of fifty years of this thing of slavery in said District is now ended. and ended in the recognition of the "two principles of compensation and colonization." This is good; for either one of these principles, in connection with the admitted doctrine of State sovereignty over the subject, affords a pretty secure protection to slavery in the slave States against any violent abolition remedies, with President Lincoln at the helm.

THE TRIBUNE AND GEN. GRANT'S OFFICIAL RE. PORT .- Not being very well able, in conse quence of its brevity, to mutilate the official report sent by Gen. Grant relative to the battle near Pittsburg, as they did Gen. Cullow's report of the evacuation of Columbus, the Tribune finds fault with it, on the ground that it is not explicit enough. Because the report does not state that tens of thousands have been slain, the Tribune's thirst for blood is not satisfied. Gen. Grant speaks of his pickets; and the Tribune at once asserts " we had no pickets," thus giving a brave general the lie direct. It curther asks:-" Why does not Gen. Grant tell the truth," thus adding insult to imputation. Then, in defiance of Gen. Sherman's official report, printed on another page of their paper, the Tribune tries to throw the blame of the capture of Gen. Prentiss entirely on Gen. Sherman's shoulders, or insinuates it ought to be there. If, with prima facia evidence of innocence before them, the Tribune tries to condemn a Brigadier General, can we wonder that the General commanding has not escaped, when the Tribune could not get any other evidence of his movements than that perceived by the jaundiced eyes of the corps in Spruce street?

THE BERDAN SHARPSHOOTERS .-- The regiment of sharpshooters raised by Colonel Berdan have already been of great service in the West, but are distinguishing themselves most prominently at the siege of Yorktown. Stationed in the ad. vance of our forces, they watch every movement of the enemy with sleepless vigilance. It a rebel head is shown above the ramparts, it is instantly perforated by a dozen balls from our sharpshooters. Several batteries of the rebels have been rendered temporarily unserviceable by the skill with which Berdan's riflemen pick off the gunners. It is said that each rifleman scores up, in prairie style, the number of rebels he has killed, by cutting a mark upon the butt of his rifle. The rebels keep an equally accurate count, no doubt. At the outbreak of this war, the Southerners boasted of the ad. vantage they had in their trained riflemen Berdan and his corps have made that boasting vain.

Our Soldiers and Politicians. In some terra incognita there is said to volcano which throws up from a single crater two great streams of water, the one boiling hot, the other icy cold. Such a phenomenon is no inapt simile of our civil war, which has developed simultaneously the most strongly con trasted instances of devoted patriotism and

noble heroism among our soldiers, and con-

summate treason and unrivalled roguery among our politicians.

There was a period in the history of this country when politics was the science of good government, and politicians, of all shades of opinion, labored earnestly for the prosperity of the nation, differing often in regard to the means to be used, but never in regard to the end to be achieved. In these times, when politics is synonymous with party sorambles for place and plunder, and when the title of a politician has lost its nobler signification, and be come equivalent to that of rogue, rascal and swindler, it is hard to believe that we have degenerated so far within a period of less than half a century, and the student of our political history is almost compelled to doubt the accuracy of dates and to set down sober facts as outrageous falsehoods. Still, this present war is at once the natural result and the convincing proof of our political degeneracy. For over thirty years our politics and politicians have been growing corrupt, and the result is that we have been transformed from a peaceful prosperous and powerful people to a nation convulsed by the painful threes of civil war. When all our public officers became politicians, and all our politicians became rogues; when our legislators thought more of party than of principle, and more of their salaries than of their duties; when our judicial officers made Justice blind to everything but gold, decreed poverty as the only crime to be punished, filled their pockets by emptying our prisons, and transformed laws into devices for the protection of criminals and the oppression of honest men: when our executive officers, from the highest to the lowest, connived with knavery and shared its profits, extended their hands not to arrest criminals, but to receive bribes, and used their powers to defend vice and assail virtue; when the people, demoralized by bad laws badly administered and worse executed, came to regard popular elections as means to relieve one gang of rogues of the trouble of holding office to make room for a fresh gang, equally corrupt, then the ruin of the country ecame an almost inevitable consequence, to be averted only by some signal crisis which would sweep away all political scoundrels as effectually as the Deluge cleansed the world of vice, even if it left us only a desolate country to regenerate.

The progress of this rapid and terrible corruption is distinctly traceable in our political history. During the administration of John Quin cy Adams a deficit of about four thousand three hundred dollars was discovered in the account of Tobias Watkins, one of the auditors of the national treasury. So great was the indignation excited throughout the country by this discovery that Watkins was incarcerated as Washington for some time, and, though it could not be proven that he had embezzled the money, he was afterwards shunned like a leper as he walked the streets, and the opponents of the administration used his case as a potential argument in favor of Jackson's election. With Van Buren's administration the maxim "To the victors belong the spoils" was fully recognized, and fidelity to a party, and not mental or moral qualifications, became the recommendation to office. Profigacy, swindling and embezzlement ensued, and the people, not yet accus tomed to official corruption, and irritated by a thousand evils arising from partisan legislation swept Van Buren out of power and Harrison into the President's chair as with a whirlwind. Harrison was killed by the incessant importunities of office seekers; for the opportunity to live upon the public money had already assumed the place of the welfare of the country, as the object and reward of political success Tyler succeeded Harrison, and devoted his whole term to displays of partisan spite and malice. With temporary checks, but with ever increasing power, the tide of corruption has rolled on from that day to this, and during the last administration it may almost be said that, from a postmaster to a Cabinet officer, there was not one honest public servant in the country. A reaction was natural. Regardless of every other consideration, the people rallied around and elected a candidate only strong in having the word Honest prefixed to his name. Southern politicians, foreseeing this result, and their consequent loss of place and profit, determined to retain power over at least one-half of the country, and seized upon the abolition agitation as a pretext to delude their constituents into secession. Civil war ensued; but even that catastrophe, which appalled the world, has failed to appal the politicians. On the contrary, the war seems only to have fully de veloped corruption, as night makes miasmas more perceptible. Official knavery, like a snake cut in two, lives in both sections of this divided nation. The old political swindlers rob the seceded South, while a fresh gang of experts drain the life blood of the North-Instead of being incarcerated and shunned, as was poor Watkins, our pub-lic rogues are entrusted with government contracts, and, when detected in frauda are transferred to foreign missions or assigned to new commands. No one doubts the honesty of the President; but his subordinates take ad vantage of his close attention to the war to make every department of the government a den of thieves, and in one single job our present official swindlers outrival the aggregate corruption of Van Buren's time. At the South the state of affairs is the same, or even worse Official corruption and embezzlement run riot throughout the land.

We look in vain for politicians to save u from the ruin they have caused. Our only hope is in our soldiers. In the army alone we find true patriotism and true patriots. Our soldiers peril their lives for the Union, while politicians peril the Union for money. Our soldiers do service at wages too small for the meanest politician, and would be content without pay, if the country required it. Just this patriotism, devotion to the Union, self-sacrifice and disregard of personal aggrandizement we need in our public officers. The services of our soldiers, then, must not end with the war. They must redcem the Union they have preserved. The Revolutionary war gave us a Washington. The little battle of Tippecanoe gave us a Harrison. The war of 1812 gave us a Jackson. The Mexican war gave us beroes of whom we made Presidents, Governors and

Congressmen. So this war, the greatest of all, will fill our public offices with men who have proven their patriotism upon the battle field. Corrupt politicians will be crowded out of sight forever. Political parties will be swallowed up in the one great party of the Union-From the highest to the lowest office in the nation, the soldiers who are now re-establishing the Union will be chosen to administer its affairs and conduct it to greater prosperity and greater glories than it has ever yet seen

OUR REBEL PRISONERS.—It appears that since the 1st of January last, and without counting those captured at Pittsburg Landing, we have taken over twenty-one thousand prisoners from the rebels, as follows:-

Feb. 8—Roanoke Island.

" 13—Springfield, Mo.

" 16—Fort Donelson.

March 8—Pea Ridge, Ark.

" 14—Newbern.

April 7—Island No. 10.

Other places.

nen is a very severe blow to the rebel oa for men are very hard to get for the rebel army. Drafts and conscriptions—the last re-sorts for recruiting an army—have been resort-ed to at the South, and every means is being used to reinforce Beauregard, at Corinth, and swell the forces under Johnston, at Yorktown. If we choose to retain these prisoners or release them on parole, we deprive the South of many thousands of veteran soldiers and cripple the rebel cause severely.

Now, if these prisoners are exchanged and ent back to the South, is the blow to the rebel ause less severe! They came here expecting to find Northern people all barbarians, and they receive kinder treatment here than in the South. A very short stay at the North converts them from the error of their opinion of the Northern people, and they return, like missionaries, to weaken treason in its very stronghold.

Senator Gwin, who was confined in Fort Lafayette, and has since turned up so mysteriously in Richmond, is an instance of these missionary rebels. In a recent conversation he told the people of Richmond that the determination of the people of the North was unwavering, and that our military laborers and manufactories of war materials had been doubled. This was very discouraging to the rebels, but how it must have inspirited the Richmond Union men.

It has been often stated, and we think it quite ossible, that many of our soldiers will settle the South at the close of the war. On the other hand, many of the rebel prisoners will doubtless remain here. The poor whites who own no slaves have a very hard time of it at the South, and will do very well here with a little education in the art of labor. So this capture of rebel prisoners works a great many different ways, but every way well.

THE OPERA.-Manager Grau, having manœuvred like a cautious general all the winter, is now preparing to take the town by a series of dashing surprises. As in the case of General McClellan, people have been accusing him of not moving fast enough; but his present combinations will completely silence his detractors. He has only been waiting for reinforcements to commence what we are assured will prove a most satisfactory campaign; for with the accessions that he has made to his company he will be in a position to produce operas that are rarely played here for the want of the requisite strength. Of the new artists engaged report speaks in the most flattering terms. The return of the malady by which Madame Baseggio was afflicted in Havana will unfortunately deprive the manage ment of her services; but her place will be promptly filled by another prima donna of equal merit. In the meanwhile Signor Tombesi will open the season on Monday, in the Comte de Mantua in "Rigoletto." tenor is young, has a most sympathetic organand has been trained in the best school. Signor Ferri our public are already acquainted with. His return to our stage will be hailed with pleasure by all those who can appreciate a highly cultivated and conscientious artist. Of other debuts which are in prospect it will be time enough to speak by and by. The public have only to afford a generous support to Mr. Grau's enterprise and desire to gratify them to be repaid by a lavish expenditure on his part. Two additionally gratifying features of the reorganization of his troupe are the permanent engagement of Madame d'Angri-one of the pest contraltos on the Italian stage-and the resumption by Signor Muzio of his old post of chef d'orchestre. With such a capital business administrator as Herr Grau, such an accomplished musical director as Muzio, and such an array of vocal and dramatic talent as the company now presents, the approaching season cannot fail to be a most brilliant and success. ful one.

FRAUDS IN THE ARMY ROLL .- The bill in the House of Representatives to appropriate thirty millions of dollars to make up the deficiencies of former estimates led to a sharp discussion, in which it was charged that there were " atrocious frauds and peculations by the War Department;" that is, as formerly conducted. One member stated, moreover, that it was rumored that the \$30,000,000 was to pay for a defalcation in the War Department when it was under the direction of Mr. Cameron. Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, said it was notorious that officers of mere skeletons of regiments were receiving full pay for doing nothing, and it was doubtful if such regiments existed at all except on paper. It is strange that, if our army numbers nearly 700,000 men, and that so many men are under pay, there should be only 416,449 on the rolls. The estimate was for half a million of men, the number Congress intended to raise; but by some hocus pocus we are informed at one time that the number raised is 572,000, and then again that it is nearly 700,000. There ought not to be this uncertainty, and public justice demands that a rigid inquiry ought to be made into the allegation that army pay is drawn on fictitious rolls of regiments which have scarcely an existence. This would be better work for a committee of Congress than the foolish inquiry as to the alleged inhumanity with which the enemy conducts the war, and a bootless investigation about dead men's bones at Manassas. The legitimate burthens of the war will be heavy enough without adding thereto fraudulent millions. Let a searching inquiry be made.

Brigadier General Kelly has promptly removed all re-strictions requiring military passes from passengers over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from Parkers-burg, Wheeling as Beawood to Washington and Balti-more, no document of the kind being new necessary for travelling East or West. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad

### IMPORTANT FROM ALABAMA

ns of Gen. & litchel-His Victoria ous Advance Check ed by the Rebels Burning Bridges-Wilat He Has Accom-

plished, &c.

The following despatch was rechived from Gen Mitchel an Wednesday evening by a friend and relative in this

The enomy have burned bridges to stop my advance upon Chattanooga, and have used the same brilliant strategy to hold my column back from Orinit; but for this we should this day have entered Tuscumbis and Florence. We have penetrated a magnificent collon region, have taken and now hold and run more than one. dred miles of railway, well stocked with machi hundred miles of railway, well stocked with inactions, and in fine condition. I have abandoued the idea of ever coming nearer to an enemy than long cannon range. This is the third State through which I have hunted him with out success.

O. M. MITCHEL, Brigadier General.

Acting Major General Ormsby McKnight Mitchai is a native of Kontucky, but entered the Military Academy from the State of Ohio. He became a cadet at West Point in the year 1825, and graduated on the 30th day of was promoted to a provet second lieutenancy in the cond United States artillery, and during the same day Second United States artitlety, and during the same day repeived his full commission for that rank. On the 50th day of August, 1829, he was appointed Acting Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the Military Academy of West Point, which position he retained until the 28th of West Point, which position he retained until the 2344 of August, 1831. He resigned his military rank on the 30th day of September, 1832. He then began the study of the law, and practised as counsellor at law in the city of Cin-cinnati, Ohio, from 1832 to 1834. He next became a Profossor of Mathematics, Philosophy and Astronomy, at the Cincinnati College, in Ohio, which position he held for en years—viz: from 1834 to 1844. During that time viz: from 1836 to 1837—he was the Chief Engineer of the Little Miami Railroad, and in 1841 was appointed a member of the Board of Visitors to the Military Academy at West Point. He became the founder and director of the Ob-servatory in Cincinnati in 1845, and retained the latter sosition for several years, during which time he edite and published a noted astronomical journal entitled the Siderial Messenger. From 1847 to 1848 he held the posi-tion of Adjutant General of the State of Ohio, and in 1848 was appointed the Chief Engineer of the Chie and Missis sippi Railroad, which position he held for some length o ime. During all these years he resided in the city

the Dudley Observatory at Albany as director, which position he held when, on the occasion of the grand Union Meeting at Union square, about this time last year, he made his noted speech that was readered se remarkable for its flery eloquence and strong devotion to the Union. It was in this speech that he said:—'I owe ellegiance to no particular State, and never did, and, God allegiance to no particular State, and nover did, and, God helping me, I never will. I owe allegiance te the government of the United States. A poor boy, working my way with my own hands, at the age of twelve turned out to take care of myself as best I could, and beginning by earning but four dollars per month, it worked my way onward until this glorious government of the United States gave me a chance at the Military Academy at West Point. There I landed with my knapsack on my back, and, I tell you God's truth, just a quarter of a dollar in my pocket. There I swore allegiance to sack on my back, and, I say you don't return, make the rer of a dollar in my pocket. There I swore allogiance to the government of the United States. I did not abjure the love of my own State, nor of my adopted State, but high above that was proudly triumphant and predemihigh above that was proudly triumphant and predominant my love for our common country." His speech was continued with a fervor that held his hearers on thralled, and amid his remarks the following words also we will receive them with open arms; but until that time, while they are trailing our glorious banner in the dust, when they scorn it, condemn it, curse it, and trample it under foot, I must smite, and in God's name I will amite, and as long as I have strength I will do it. \* \* \* \* I am re God help me, to do my duty. I am ready to fight in ranks or out of the ranks. Having been educated in the Academy, having been in the army several years, having served as a commander of a volunteer company for ten years, and having served as an adjutant general, I feel i years, and have been as a second of the choice act; and, in God's name, give me something to do!"
The choice that greeted the close of his fervid remarks

The cush to arms had commenced, and on the 9th of August, 1861, Ormsby M. Mitchel was commissioned a Brigadier General of Volunteers. The honor of his ap-pointment was conferred on the State of New York. He Department of the Ohio, which embraced his native State. Many of the loyal Kentuckians rushed to his standard, and we soon find him in command of a brigade, mands of Generals Anderson and Sherman, in that department. The dash with which he made his brilliant entry into the robel works at Bowling Green has not yet been forgotten, and circumstances more than himself had prevented him from coming more prominently beforethe public ere this event. By the results is is plain that after the occupation of Nash-ville he moved down the railroad leading from that city to Chattanooga, where he was doubtless expected; but suddenly, and without any previous notice of his move nepts, we find his force to have turned on to a branch ine to Fayetteville, and, by a grand forced march acr the country, he turns up in possession of a point of their main Southern trunk line of railroad—the rebels. principal route of communication—midway between their two principal points of eccupation at Chattanooga and Corinth. Here he seized a quantity of rolling stock, and by its aid he secured "one hundred miles of the raitrond." Although the rebels might have conquered a small force at a junction or rail-road station, or might have surmounted the difficulties of a broken or burned railroad bridge, it will not be quite as easy for them to arrange a thoroughly an organized plan that would enable them to regain one hundred miles of road in possession of deter-mined Union troops. But General Mitchel is not done yet. We shall again hear of him.

General Mitchel, like many of our more prominen

generals, is also an author. He has sent forth to the world several of the finest astronomical works, some of which have been reprinted file a popular form in England and on the European continent. His "Planetary and Stellar Worlds" and his "Popular Astronomy" (published by Blakeman & Mason) have become text books, and his Astronomy of the Bible" is now in the press. He has also written three other works that we have been ma acquainted with, but which we believe have not yet

THE FINE ARTS-THE BATTLE BEIWEEN THE MERRIMAC AND MONITOR.—We have received from Hatch & Co., No william street, a copy of a beautifully designed as neatly executed colored engraving, thirty-six by twentyfour inches, of "the splendid victory of the Ericsson bat bery Monitor, disabling the rebel battery Merrimae, ten guns, and steamers Jamestown and Yorktown." The picture also embraces our noble frigate, the Minnesota, in full operation, and the brave old sinking Cumberland fighting to the last.

# The New Bankrapt Bill.

NEW YORK, April 17, 1882. After an untiring devotion to business in this city for over thirty years, I now find my fortune shipwreeked and myself a bankrupt, with every prospect of going to my grave leaving my family in poverty and friendless, without Congress relieves myself and other unfortunate by the passage of a bankrupt act. Our representative in Congress are well aware that tens of thousands of the in Congress are well aware that tens of thousands of the most active business men of the country must remain pressed down, mable to move, even to provide bread for their families, until such an act passes; and it would be well the public should know who it is that opposes such a bill, and it would seem to me its friesds should get it in such a position that the yeas and nays be taken on it and the names published in your widely circulated journal. Your powerful indience, exerted through your press in its favor, would command the gratifude of thousands.

A SUSSCRIBER SINCE 1840.

Captain Strong and family, of the United States Navy; Rev. Jas. Abercromble, "Z Baitimore, Colonel R. W. Lee, of the Massachusetts Twentieth Volunteers; Mrs. Lee and Mendez do Castro, of Cuba; James C. O. Ferris and Jona Mendez do Castro, of Cuba; James C. O. Ferris and wife, of Middletown, Colon.; E. Mensto, of New York; J. Hasbrouck, of K. Agston; John W. Candler, of Boston, and N. A. Haven, "A Chicago, are stopping at the Everett House."

Captain, Bonaparte Patterson has (April 2) arrived at Marson les from Algiers.